

**IT'S
STILL
FREE**

BONAIRE

April 14 to April 21, 2006 Volume 13, Issue 15

The REPORTER

Kaya Gob. Debrot 200 • E-mail: reporter@bonairenews.com • 717-8988 SINCE 1994



Kontest di Fli (Kite Contest)

Pages 10 & 11

Dennis Sanipoen, Omar Winklaar, Marciano and Manoushka Singoremito with their "Bonaire Reporter" kite

Flotsam and Jetsam

Evert Piar, Chairman of the Bonaire Economic Foundation Platform (Stichting Economisch, SEP), warns against missing out on tax money for the island. It's a total of about **NAf23 million in import and excise tax on merchandise intended for Bonaire**, but landed first in Curaçao. The financial position of Bonaire is seriously put at a disadvantage due to this. According to Customs, NAf156 million worth of goods are involved. Considering an average of 15% in import taxes and excise, this means Bonaire is owed NAf23 million. The Foundation wants Bonaire's elected officials to retroactively collect the taxes for Bonaire for this year at minimum. Don't let Bonaire become a financial victim, says the SEP.



Evert Piar

► **Bongos Beach (Bar and Restaurant) is in danger of disappearing** if a contract dispute with its host resort, Eden Beach, is not resolved. Bongos was built using innovative concrete techniques in the form of an African hut in the spring of 2001. It has been proven to be a popular gathering spot especially on Fridays and for big concerts like the recent De Dijk show.

According to court reports Bongos says it has a 20-year contract, renew-

able every five years. Eden Beach says it can't accept the terms of the renewal and has increased the rent from NAf4.000 to NAf5.000 monthly. In addition it listed grievances it had with Bongos and wants Bongos to pay a penalty of \$200/day as long as it continues to operate. Recently Eden Beach built a two-story structure adjacent to Bongos to use as a restaurant. The court is due to render its decision on the dispute by April 26.



Henk Drenth of Bongos



Eden Beach Resort



Photo: St Martin Herald

Naval officials from Venezuela and Holland.

► **Venezuela has agreed to actively participate in the upcoming regional Joint Caribbean Lion naval**

exercise. The exercise involves military units from the US, Holland, Great Britain and other countries. Following a visit by a top Venezuelan military delegation to Curaçao it was also agreed to hold an annual joint naval exercise later this year between the Dutch Kingdom and Venezuela.

Venezuelan President Chávez is opposing the US on a regular basis and said recently that he suspected the US wanted to use the Antilles and Aruba as military bases for an attack on Venezuela. On March 9, the Dutch press reported that Defense Minister Kamp called Chávez a "bigoted populist with a lot of money who has his eyes on the Dutch Kingdom's scraps (Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao) off the shores of Venezuela."



► **Tiara Air got its Airline Operating Certificate from the Antillean Central Government and will begin flying with a 36-seat Short 360-200 between Aruba and Curaçao this week.** The fare is NAf200. Another aircraft will start flying in May and the network of routes will gradually be expanded to destinations in Venezuela. Tiara is only the third (of the 13 businesses that have tried to start an airline in the past four years) to get an okay from the Curaçao government.

► **A broadly based permit for Insel Air, a new Curaçao-based airline, was approved last week.** It will be permitted to fly regional routes, including to Miami. According to Transportation Minister Kenneth Gijsbertha, a lawsuit brought by the airline was dropped. According to Insel Air Director, Edward Heerenveen, "There is still a lot of work to do before we start flying."



Bolitas Photo: St Martin Herald

► **Last week, following a tip, Bonaire Customs arrested five men and confiscated 1.5 kilos of cocaine, much of which was already prepared in bolitas,** from the Curaçao registered fishing boat *Marisol*, NC 847. The *Marisol* is a familiar sight in Bonaire waters.

► **SELIBON, Bonaire's waste management company, will double the rate it charges for home pickup of trash effective with the April WEB bill.** When SELIBON first began its excellent and efficient trash pickup it was free. Then a charge of NAf5 was imposed, then raised to NAf10 in the

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BONAIRE The REPORTER

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Bon Pasku



Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2) mid-90s. Now it will be NAf20. SELIBON collects three million kilograms of trash annually. It recently began charging for commercial dumpers at the island's landfill as well.

In keeping with the recent trend of price and tax increases, *The Bonaire Reporter* will double its newsstand price effective with this issue.



► **The Hr. Ms. Sbellius, one of two recently built hydrographical measurement vessels, is on station in the Dutch Caribbean.** Every member country of the United Nations has the responsibility for its own continental plateau and maritime zone to map out shallows, harbor entrances and areas that can threaten shipping at least every 10 years. It arrived in St Maarten on March 23 to start its work around the islands that will continue until June 27.

► **The Bonaire Rotary Club has recently expanded its "Breakfast in Schools" program** to add additional schools to the program, which has already been running successfully for the past 18 months. Buddy Dive and Divi Flamingo Beach already assist with funding the program, but the Rotary Club is looking for additional dona-

tions. If you can help, email richard@cocopalmgarden.com.

► **Divi Resorts is appointing Maarten van Wijk as its new Executive Vice President.** He had been the acting General Manager of Bonaire's Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino from May 2005 to January 2006. Mr. Van Wijk received his BA at the School of Hotel Management and Administration at The Hague, The Netherlands, and is fluent in four languages. After living in the US for 25 years, he became a US citizen in 2002.

Sara Matera follows Mr. van Wijk as the Divi Flamingo General Manager

► **View your new house from the sky! Harbortown Realty** has come up with a fun idea to help you in choosing a Bonaire real estate investment. You can charter a small aircraft and pilot, if necessary, and check out the island. Bonaire has its own Aero Club where you can charter a Cessna 172, the world's most popular training plane. Are you not a pilot yet? No problem! Bonaire has the ideal conditions to learn how to fly: fair weather, little air traffic and experienced FAA licensed instructors. Call Harbortown Realty 717-5539 for more information.

► **Last week Bonaire Affair announced the online launching of its Bonaire Island Map.** The map, designated as the Official 2006 Map of Bonaire by the Tourist Corporation Bonaire, was revised in January, 2006, in its print version and now is also avail-

► **The Bonaire division of the police force of the Netherlands Antilles is looking for new officers.**

Qualifications: Dutch nationality, between 17 and 34 years old; at least three years of high school education, good health with a satisfactory behavior record. If these qualifications are met a candidate will be further screened before being selected.

For more information call 717-3503.



Police officer Emanuel Libier at the high school explaining police work

able online at <http://www.bonaireislandmap.com>.

► **Did you know that colors can challenge you to ask yourself the right questions?** Your inventiveness, creativity and your intuition can be highly stimulated and activated by colors. By studying the effects of different colors you can learn to develop a totally new perspective. To find out more check out the training course offered on page 8. Professional color therapists Caroline Houthuyse and Lya Vros from the Carly Color Institute will offer this course on Bonaire in May in Dutch. Sign up now. Contact Annemiek le Noble at

bonairebasics@telbonet.an or call 717-2837 or 786-3341.

► **Bonaire needs more publicity like this. The new Cactus Blue restaurant was recommended in prestigious Islands magazine by senior editor Ty Sawyer.** The article called attention to Bonaire. Cactus Blue was the only island restaurant mentioned. See their ad on page 10.



► **You can do more than just get away at The Great Escape resort.**

(Continued on page 9)

Dear Editor:

Please allow me to take the occasion of the 40th anniversary of my first arrival on Bonaire, representing the Antilles International Salt Co., to express my appreciation and thanks to my friends and acquaintances on Bonaire for the 40 years of warmth and cordiality during my long association with the people here. Especially, I want to thank the Bonaireans and ex-pats on my staff, including Deis Schermer (my first employee), Amado Felix, Michael Tomaselli, Juana St. Jago, Bruce Bertram, Rene Hakkenberg, Norman Evertsz, Ton Bassant, the three Leonicia brothers, one of whom survives, Andres "Booboo" Josephia, Pablo Winklaar, Nicho Nicholas and Jan Gielen, Poppy Rodriquez, and Gaby Felix who came a bit later.

Also must be mentioned our friends and consultants from the French Salt Company, Salins du Midi of Montpellier, France, and the various Dutch, Antillean and American contractors who undertook the construction of various portions of the facility, especially Zenke-Smith, van der Kwast Construction, Kaiser Engineers, Interbeton, and Hugo Gerharts of Bonaire Trading.

Also, thanks to my friends and mentors on the project, Curaçaoan Norman Chumanceiro of S. E. L. Maduro, Gezaghèber Elias Morkos and L. D. Gerharts of Bonaire Trading Co., all of whom have passed on. Finally, my heartfelt thanks to the officials on the island, especially, Toon Abraham, Rudy Ellis and Raymundo Saleh, for their cooperation on the venture and their friendship. The many people who stop me on the street to say "Bon Dia" are very gratifying (especially the guys and gals from Cap'n Don's Flamingo Beach Club and Bill Miller's Hotel Bonaire.

I am grateful that I can return to Bonaire each winter to continue my friendships with the people here.

Masha danki pa tur hende. (Many thanks to all.) (I hope to write a similar letter 10 years from now.) (Please forgive me if I neglected to mention anyone.)

Larry Theilgard
Playa Lechi

Read more of Larry Thielgard's reminiscences on page 8. Ed.

A RESORT OWNER ASKS:

"WILL OB (SALES TAX) APPEAR WHEN ROOM TAX DISAPPEARS?"

Dear Editor:

I am sure there will many more comments about the new "departure" tax. To clarify one person's comment though, there is discussion about a \$10 per day tax that would benefit those staying less than eight days. After seven days then the rate of \$75 is applied. There is not a charge of \$10 per day instead of the \$75, and the \$10 would not, as an example, be charged to someone staying two weeks. They would only pay the \$75.

It was also suggested that using the immigration forms would be a good source to check and collect. A few years ago this was done to audit room tax. When one auditor was asked if they were also checking all apartments and smaller places, the answer was, "No, we only are doing the major hotels!" This partly is what has caused the problem we have today. Had they checked all the "black market" places I am sure things would look better.

A second problem with the immigration cards is that they are far from accurate. One hotel was being charged for an additional 8,500 room nights (\$46,750). What happens is that visitors will put down the first place they are staying without noting it was only one night and then moving elsewhere for two weeks. Or write down where they are diving or they may move from a hotel if they do not like it. After proving this and the fact that one month had an occupancy rate, according to the immigration cards of 130%, the auditor accepted that the 8,500 rooms nights missing was a mistake.

The big question now is the fact that since rooms are no longer taxed by room tax, they will fall under the OB tax and be subjected to 5%!

Bruce Bowker

Dear Editor:

Was catching up on my reading of the BR this week (I forget to read it faithfully without those nice weekly reminders you used to send out)... Saw the item about the new departure tax.

Wanted to know if I am reading correctly. The tax was approved last year and is set to go into effect June 1. Would impose a flat \$75 fee on foreigners (like me, US citizen) upon departure. Would replace the room tax, TII tax and \$20 departure tax. The purpose is to allow the government to more easily collect all taxes that are now not necessarily being sent in by some hotels and car rental companies.

Let me know if my math below is correct. This new plan seems to be more beneficial to people who stay longer on the island for their vacations or visits. My example will be based on me traveling with my husband.

OLD SYSTEM:

For 2 people traveling together: \$6.50 per person room tax and TII tax, multiplied by 2 = \$13 per day.

For one week, that's \$13 times 7 = \$91 per week in room tax and TII tax, for two people.

Add in the \$20 per person departure tax at the airport for a total of \$131 for two people.

For two weeks and two people it would be \$182 room/TII taxes plus \$40 departure tax = \$222 total.

NEW SYSTEM:

2 people for one week = \$150

2 people for two weeks or more = \$150 (since it's a one-time fee collected at departure)

Is this correct? I'm coming with my husband in June and want to know what to expect. Is it paid in cash (dollars or guilders) or are credit cards accepted? I'm also trying the new Continental routing for the first time. I am attracted by the two-leg aspect, rather than the three-leg routing on American.

Carolyn Zinko
San Francisco Chronicle

(Ms. Zinko has written stories about Bonaire that appear in US newspapers)

Ms. Zinko is correct. However, the TIL Tax is levied at the discretion of individual hotels and may or may not be removed. Ed.

Boost For Bonaire's Small Businesses



Foundation board members

Last week the *Bo Mes Negoshi* Foundation (Your Own Business) started activities to help the smallest entrepreneurs as well as new business entrepreneurs on the island.

Otto Bartels, who has lived on Bonaire for several years and is an experienced advisor to small and micro businesses, concluded that many small, but potentially useful businesses have insufficient access to the lending institutions.

To come up with a business plan is hard and often expensive, and some banks are often reluctant to finance the often small loans, not only because the administration fees for the bank are too expensive in relation to the loans.

Because of that opportunities can be lost since a very small initiative can grow into a big company, good for the economy of Bonaire in general and increasing employment opportunities.

This is very frustrating for the new entrepreneur-to-be, who spent a lot of time developing his/her plan, who cannot get a start because the amount needed is too small for a commercial bank.

About three years ago Otto founded *Bo Mes Negoshi* to find ways to help the small and micro entrepreneurs. In his search for funding he found the *Rabobank Heerenveen* (Netherlands) and the Rabo Foundation in Eindhoven (Netherlands). These two institutions were willing to help and support *Bo Mes Negoshi*. Other funding was promised by other companies and private persons.



Oneil Martijn (r) receives the first check from Fedde Pronk (center) and Otto Bartels

Recently, Fedde Pronk, general manager of the *Rabobank Heerenveen*, handed a symbolic check of 25.000 euros to micro-entrepreneur, Oneil Martijn, who started a delivery service to customers from various restaurants on the island and who asked the foundation for marketing advice for his business.

The foundation has a board: Chairman Fedde Pronk (from The Netherlands), Vice chairman Guno Gerling, Treasurer/Secretary Lydia Duijn, members Aisha Henriquez and Elvis Tjin-a-Sjoe. The foundation also has an autonomous credit commission and an advisory group. Next the foundation will explore saving plans for entrepreneurs and cooperative services like an electronic info desk and will organize periodic get-togethers for interested people to share business experiences and information. *Tanneke Bartels*



Earth Day On The Way

Saturday, April 22 is celebrated almost worldwide as Earth Day. Linda Ridley sent us this information to help us understand what it's all about:

When Is Earth Day?

Earth Day is most often observed by the media, hundreds of local groups and noted on calendars on April 22. Many observe Earth Week and Earth Month, and since most events and festivals need to take place on a weekend, ED is observed on the weekends before and after. Others also observe it on March 21, and World Environment Day is on June 6. As we go to press there are not many events, planned in Bonaire for Earth Day except for the "What On Earth" activities and parade for children. (For information call 717-4593)



Why Earth Day?

Because it works. Annual occasions throughout history and in all cultures provide meaningful opportunities for celebration, education and action. Earth Day observations and celebrations include all social sectors, nationalities and cultural groups. Earth Day is a successful catalyst for ongoing environmental education, action and change. Earth Day activities offer important points of entry to address worldwide environmental concerns as well as the opportunities for individuals and communities to focus on their local environmental problems. Local activities include clean-ups, restoration projects, parades, fairs, conferences and concerts. Because Earth Day observances broaden the base of support for environmental programs, rekindle public commitment and enroll participation from every social and business sector, they can be used to implement wide-scale programs that bring people together to act for the common good.

Linda Ridley

Simidan at LVV | Parke Publico Flea Market



Deputy Onnie Emerenciana with some LVV staff and seniors.

Last Saturday the gates of the LVV (agricultural department) were thrown open and more than 100 of Bonaire's elders arrived in the morning to participate in the Simidan events – picking the *maishi* (sorghum) from the LVV fields. Rincon groups were the 60 Plusers and the Mi Hofi gardening group. After toiling in the fields everyone had a big meal of *cabrito stoba* (goat stew), *sanger di cabrito* (a dish made of goat blood), fish, *boyo* (*maishi* bread) and a delicious vegetable soup made from the vegetables grown by the Mi Hofi gardening group.

LVV is the farmers' and the gardeners' friend. They sell not only goats and sheep but hardy trees and plants, including vegetable plants, vegetables seeds, insecticides and fertilizers. They're on the Lagoen Road on the south side, just past the animal shelter. LVV is open Monday through Friday, 7 am to noon, 1 to 4 pm.

Look for them on Rincon Day, April 30. They'll have a stand selling some of their products. L.D.



The organizer: LVV's Rocky Emers



Last Month's Flea Market at Parke Publico

The Bonaire Animal Shelter conducted another successful sale at the Monthly Flea Market at Parke Publico Bonairiano on March 25. It was the second time the market was held and attracted a much bigger group. The stock of books increased dramatically after the last publication in the press and more people are still donating. The Shelter thanks all these people who are supporting it with their donations and can still use more used books, clothes, shoes, etc. So if you have things that you don't use any-

more, you can call 787-0466, and somebody from the Shelter will come and pick them up. On Saturday, April 29, the next Flea Market will be held at Parke Publico and on Sunday, April 30, the stand will be in Rincon during the festivities of Dia di Rincon.

The Shelter is also looking for some folding tables to hold the items that are for sale. Story & Photo by Paul Wichers



Be an Angel -
Pass on The Reporter to a Friend

A Bonaire LOVE STORY

“Do you have anyone on your staff who might want to go to a small Dutch Caribbean island to build a solar salt works?” It was my boss, Jack Ryon, on the phone, calling from our headquarters in Clarks Summit, PA. At the time I was plant manager of our salt mine under the city of Detroit. The year was 1966. My knee jerk reaction was, “I might be interested.”

He said, “If you’re serious, why don’t you and your wife go down and have a look.” So later that month we journeyed to Curaçao to visit the SEL Maduro people to learn more about the project. Norman Chumaceiro, who eventually became my principal mentor on the project, received us and introduced us to Willemstad and Curaçao.

The Fuller family controlled the International Salt Company at the time and Mortimer Fuller and his wife Bobbie had two daughters who attended the Madeira School near Washington, DC. At a parents’ week end at the school, the Fullers met Brim Maduro who also had a daughter at the school. The usual small talk ensued: “What do you do?” “I’m in the salt business.”



Larry Thielgard

“Have you heard of Bonaire? Salt has been produced there for several centuries.” His interest piqued, Mortimer visited the island, then returned and got his board interested enough to pursue matters. Extensive negotiations with the Department of Finance of the Central Netherlands Antillean Government Welvaartzorg (Economic Development) office in Curaçao, Toon Abraham, the leading politico on Bonaire, various ministries in the Dutch Government, and the Audubon Society in the US, followed.

In April of 1966 the final agreements were signed at the White Pan building for a 60-year lease on 2,000 hectares (5,000 acres). In addition, the company purchased outright 200 hectares (500 acres) at four existing historic salt pans: Blue pan, White Pan, Red Pan



Bonaire's salt hills

and Orange Pan (colors of the Dutch flag and the House of Orange) and the buildings and slave huts from the E & J Maartijn Company in Curaçao.

It was after this signing was complete that I received the phone call from my boss in April of 1966.

After a couple of days in Curaçao, we flew over to Bonaire and were received by Cornelius Spruit, Manager of the SEL Maduro office in Bonaire. The same day we drove south on the dirt road that led around the south end of the island from the small airport. At the White Pan, there was still about a thousand tons of salt that had been harvested by pick, shovel and wheelbar-

row, the historic way of salt harvesting.

We were introduced to Gezaghèber (Lt. Governor) Elias Morkos, Toon Abraham, Rudy Ellis, Raymundo Saleh, and L.D. Gerharts, head of Bonaire Trading. It took only the first few hours of that first day on Bonaire to feel that a love affair was beginning. I called my boss and said if he would give me a year’s leave of absence from my Detroit position, I would be happy to start the project and look for a successor after my year was up.

In June of 1966 I moved to Bonaire and began to buy houses, trucks, furniture etc. I set up an office and hired

(Continued on page 9)

(A Bonaire Love Story. Continued from page 8) some staff (Deis Schermer, Amado Felix, Juana St. Jago, Poppy Martinez and Norman Everts). We had hired a team of engineers from a French solar salt company (Salins du Midi) to provide the design and construction.

After a year or so, I hired Curaçao-born and civil engineer, Rene Hakkenberg, from an engineering firm in Montreal to help with construction efforts. Also a Brit, John Atkins, came on board to provide surveying services, as did Ton Bassant for his construction talents. Dutchman Jan Gielen joined in towards the early days of operation. The pier was designed by Kaiser Engineers of California.

I was relaxing in my house on Abraham Boulevard one evening when our neighbor, Cap'n Don Stewart, barged in shouting, "Larry, you have just bought half a sailboat!" "Which half?" I figured that I was to be the owner of the half with a gas guzzling engine, but Don assured me that no engine would be needed. The *Sislin* was ours! That purchase led to the famous bar bet at the Flamingo Beach Club. Hubert "Ebo" Domacassé, owner of the sail boat *Velia* was tending bar for Cap'n Don and Cowboy Royce started a lot of challenging talk, saying that Ebo's boat was a better boat than our boat the *Sislin*.

So a race was organized, the course being around Klein Bonaire. Someone asked "What are the rules?" The answer from Cap'n Don was "There are no rules!" The first boat to pick up a line for its tender in front of the Flamingo Beach Club would be declared the winner.

Don's sailing skill, including a whisker pole deploying the large jib, put the *Sislin* well in front on the downwind leg to the southwest corner of Klein. The broad reach by the west side of the island showed *Sislin* still well in the lead. Rounding the north side, the crew on the *Sislin* grew even more confident. (Don's son, Kevin, and my son, John, joined Don and myself as crew.) Tacking up wind showed *Velia* creeping up. Could we race to the finish before *Velia* crept by? In a matter of a few seconds, the *Velia*'s crew, mainly Cowboy and Ebo, grabbed their line, winning by at the most five seconds. To the victors went the 37 cases of Amstel.

Another interesting character on the island during my first couple of years was Bill Miller, holder of the concession at Bill Miller's Hotel Bonaire and Casino. Bill was formerly the operator of the Riviera Night Club, built on a

bluff overlooking the Hudson River by the George Washington Bridge. Frank Sinatra was often a headliner there as were Vic Damone and Eddie Fisher. It was well known that the mob owned all of the night clubs in New York, and those in the know assumed that Bill, because of his vaudeville and night club experience, was their Kerkorian in Las Vegas and he became known as Mr. Entertainment. Weekly junkets were flown down via the charter jets.

Another gentleman who was one of my mentors was L.D. Gerharts. I tried to meet with him often to fill him in on our progress. He was especially interested in our plans to establish a flamingo nesting sanctuary.

Every week or two, I'd meet with another mentor, Gezaghèber Elias Morkos. He would have his pre-luncheon glass of *whiskey i awa*. I swear that man had a hollow leg. He'd put down a large glass of scotch and walk away like he'd been drinking water. It was at one of these noon encounters that we worked out a trade. The island government would get the slave huts and other old salt company buildings in exchange for the salt company getting Pink Beach.

One of my more memorable experiences was to participate in the formation of the Bonaire Flying Club. We approached the major companies for support and we were able to purchase a brand new Cessna Skyhawk. We hired an instructor from Curaçao and within the first year we had about six to eight licensed pilots. We also had non-flying members who would be flown from Bonaire to Curaçao or Aruba for a fee. We also competed with the flying clubs of Curaçao and Aruba in such feats as landing as close as possible to a stripe on the runway without undershooting, toilet paper roll cutting and bombing a target with paper flour sacks.

I was transferred to headquarters in Pennsylvania in 1971, but fortunately I still had the Bonaire salt plant as a responsibility and so I was able to visit at least several times a year for the rest of my career.

I retired in 1989 and was able to purchase a small beach house at Playa Lechi where we stay every winter.

The love affair that began that April of 1966 continues and I'm sure it will continue until my final days. *Larry Thielgard*

Larry Thielgard, former Salt Company head, drafted this story to commemorate the 40th anniversary of his arrival on Bonaire. Ed.

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 4)

► **Dive Friends/Yellow Submarine/Photo Tours/Net Tech** kicked off the Earth Day activities with its Quarterly Clean-up Dive last Saturday near the Fishermen's Pier. The volunteers included divers Phyllis, Laurien, Tim, Frouke, Hans, John, Dick, Linda, Kevin, Vanessa, Licia, Maurizio, George, Sara, Robert, Aat, Pierre, Fenna, Philip, and non-divers Janny and Chili the boat captain. Around the pier the volunteers found a lot of unusual things: a Nikonos Lens, an axle, engine and battery from cars, lots of beer bottles and normal trash. Closer to the drop off there were fewer things to clean up. The next cleanup will be held around the second Saturday in September, probably in conjunction with International Clean Up Day. (Report & photo by Wilna Groenenboom.)



Volunteers Chili and John sort the trash. Tourists look on.

You can also be pampered in their new spa. Get a massage, skin or nail care. See their ad on page 8. Call 717-7468 for an appointment.

► **The Last Bite Bakery, Bonaire's gourmet caterer, is opening a bakery shop** this



Thursday, April 13, at Kaya Grandi 70, next to Xerox, across from Bon Fysio. For the last five years only available by take-away or home delivery, Annette Roswell's delicious desserts, quiches, lasagnas and more can now also be bought over the counter. Stop by and treat yourself. The phone number remains the same-717-3923.

► There will be a sumptuous **Easter Brunch at the Calabas Restaurant at Divi Flamingo** on Easter Sunday from 11 am to 2 pm. Starting with a Mimosa Cocktail you'll be offered assorted salads, made-to-order omelets, pancakes, French toast, breads, pastry, bacon, sausage, strip loin, coconut chicken, grilled salmon, cakes, juices, coffee, tea and even more. Are you hungry yet? There will be live music too. Price is NAf41,40 (\$23.25). Kids up to 12 pay their age in \$. Call for reservations: 717-8285, ext. 444 or 442. See their ad on page 11. *L./G.D.*

coral glimpses

(a bit of information about corals presented each week by naturalist Dee Scarr)



Whether the individual coral animals are extended away from their skeleton or withdrawn into their razor-sharp skeleton, there is continuous living coral tissue over the surface of every coral head. That's easy to see in this Great Star Coral. □



*Be an Angel -
Pass on The Reporter to a Friend*

KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF
4-14	1:09	1.8FT.	11:21 1.0FT. 81
4-15	1:44	1.8FT.	12:23 0.9FT. 84
4-16	2:28	1.9FT.	13:12 0.8FT. 84
4-17	3:21	1.9FT.	13:54 0.8FT. 81
4-18	4:15	1.9FT.	14:27 0.7FT. 76
4-19	5:20	1.9FT.	15:01 0.7FT. 68
4-20	6:16	1.9FT.	15:32 0.8FT. 61
4-21	7:21	1.9FT.	15:53 0.8FT. 55

KITE CONTEST FLIES!



Bonaire's 28th Kontest di Fli (kite contest) took place last Sunday at the field behind Kooyman's. Every year it's been sponsored by Iris Semeleer of the Flamingo Bookstore on Kaya Grandi and every year it's a huge success. Families, friends – all kinds of groups – get together to put together the most amazing kites, and often it takes a whole crowd to launch them. It's a wonderful, wholesome atmosphere. Groups of families and friend set up with chairs and tables, food and drink coolers, having a social good time and watching the spirited competition.

This year the contest was dedicated to Botica Bonaire. Thanks to the organizers Hubert Vis, Archibald Martijn, Raynaldo Anthony, Gerald Victorina, Arthur Sealy and Giovany Williams.

A very big thank you too to all the sponsors, without whom the event wouldn't have happened. Major sponsors were WEB NV, MCB, J. C. Herrera and Flamingo Bookstore, NV. **The Grand Prize Winner this year was Floyd Elizabeth.** L.D.



Prize Winners:

Group 1 (7-8-9 years)
 Biggest – Djurgini Richardson
 Smallest- Jurgen Saragosa
 Most Beautiful, Most Original– Trivieletty Evertsz
 Strangest – Jursley Jansen
Group 2 (7-8-9 years)
 Biggest- Jeanaldo Domacassé
 Smallest- Raul Alberto
 Most Beautiful, Most Original – Shandino Francees
 Strangest – Rose Mary Martines
Group 3 (7-8-9 years)
 Biggest, Most Original, Strangest – Ryan Agosta
 Smallest – Michael Santaris
 Most Beautiful – Melissa Domacassé
Group 4 – (10-11-12)
 Biggest - Daniel Drullard
 Smallest – Arnel Chirino
 Most Beautiful, Strangest - Urdelson Ser-

berie
 Most Original – Ricky Hormachea
Group 5 – 10-11-12
 Smallest – Kimberly Thielman
 Biggest – Sheugairo Raphaela
 Strangest, Most Original – Sharief Kartidokromo
 Most Beautiful – Luizinho Gomez
Group 6 (10-11-12)
 Biggest, Most Beautiful, Most Original – Bernarol Abrahams
 Smallest – Larene Statia
 Strangest – Maryson (Happy Flyer Team)
Group 7
 Biggest, Most Strange – Frencl Martha
 Smallest – Hershell Wouter
 Most Beautiful – Angero Clement
 Most Original – Sheridan Winklaar
Group 8
 Biggest – Thursten Winklaar
 Smallest – Rayonell Lindenberg
 Most Beautiful – Lusandrick St. Jago

Strangest – Martoni Hovi
 Most Original – Cristy Ann Rojer
Group 9 (13-14-15)
 Largest, Most Original – Francis Willmore
 Smallest – Robbyel Bernabela
 Most Beautiful – Caredine Sambre
 Strangest – Steward Consepshon
Group 10 (13-14-15)
 Biggest – Ivar Kohabir
 Smallest – Gilivan St. Jago
 Most Beautiful, Strangest – Crisje Kunst
Group 11 (16 & over)
 Biggest, Most Beautiful, Strange, Original – Floyd Elizabeth
 Smallest – Verney Agostien
Group 12 (16 & over)
 Biggest – Sigfried Paula
 Smallest – Mirna Cicilia
 Most Beautiful, Strangest, Original – Rayan Hernandez
Group 13 (16 & over)
 Biggest – MSM

Smallest – Patric Bernabela
 Most Beautiful – Mark Cijntje
 Strangest – Joshua Martina
 Most Original – Luclien Cicilia
Group 14 (16 & over)
 Biggest – Celcio Theilman
 Smallest – Mariska Singusemito
 Most Beautiful, Strangest, Original – Jayson Servania
Group 15 (16 & over)
 Biggest – Jurivino Jansen
 Smallest- Ryan Sanipoen
 Most Beautiful – Machael Romer
 Strangest – Jurivino Jansen
 Most Original – Renny Estatia
Group 16 (16 & over)
 Biggest – Andew Mercera
 Smallest – Julivienne Jones
 Most Beautiful – Jurny Reinilla
 Strangest, Most Original – Allison Pieter

KITE CONTEST FLIES!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

New TWR Director

The new Field Director, the 11th, for Trans World Radio, arrived this week to replace Rich Fuller who returned to the US. Joe Barker was assigned this prestigious position and brought with him his wife Ronda and family from North Carolina where they lived prior to this new assignment. Joe lived on Bonaire in 1999 and 2000 and has looked forward to returning to one of his favorite places on earth. He is excited about renewing old friendships and meeting new friends on Bonaire.



The Barker Family

Joe works for TWR, a Christian radio station, which was established on the island 41 years ago by Dr. Paul E. Freed and was dedicated by then Crown Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands. TWR Bonaire broadcasts more than 70 hours of programming each week in six languages to northern South America and the Caribbean. Portuguese is used to transmit into Brazil; Creole to cover Haiti; Spanish to Cuba, Venezuela and Columbia; and Baniua or Macuxi. Trans World Radio, as the name implies, includes no less than the entire globe in the scope of its mission. All told, TWR airs programs in more than 200 languages and dialects through short-wave, AM, FM, and satellite radio. The station is on the air in more languages than BBC, Voice of America, China Radio International and Voice of Russia combined. Its international staff of over a thousand cooperates with Christian broadcasters, program producers, mission agencies, local churches and individuals to proclaim the Gospel.

Joe, Rhonda, and their children are eager to become an active part of the Bonaire community. *Story & Photo by Bob Lassiter*

Readers are invited to send photos of anniversaries, births, etc. to The Reporter. The photo and text will be printed free of charge.

**Bonaire Reporter Classifieds— They are still free
Got something to buy or sell?**

REACH MORE READERS than any other WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
by advertising in THE BONAIRE REPORTER

Non-Commercial Classified Ads (up to 4 lines/ 20± words):
FREE FREE FREE FREE

Commercial Ads only NAf0.70 per word, per week.
Free adds run for 2 weeks.

Call or fax 717-8988 or email ads@bonairereporter.com

JANART GALLERY

Kaya Gloria 7, Bonaire Local Art, Art Supplies, Framing, and Art Classes. Open Tu-We-Th & Sat 10 am- 5 pm Friday 1- 7 pm; or phone 717-5246 for appt.

BONAIRENET

The leading consumer and business information source on Bonaire. Telephone (599) 717-7160. For on-line yellow pages directory information go to <http://www.yellowpagesbonaire.com>

CAPT. DON'S ISLAND GROWER

Trees and plants, Bonaire grown. 8000m² nursery. Specializing in garden/septic pumps and irrigation. Kaminda Lagoen 103, Island Growers NV (Capt. Don and Janet). Phone: 786-0956

Bonaire Images

Elegant greeting cards and beautiful boxed note cards are now available at Chat-N-Browse next to Lover's Ice Cream and Sand Dollar Grocery. Photography by Shelly Craig www.bonaireimages.com

LUNCH TO GO

Starting from NAf5 per meal. Call CHINA NOBO 717-8981

SALT TREASURES BONAIRE

100% natural body salts "Scrub Me" 100% natural Bath Salts available at Chat-n-Browse, KonTiki and Jewel of Bonaire or call 786-6416 for more information.

JELLASTONE PETPARK

Pet boarding / Dierenpension Day and night care. phone: 786-4651 www.bonairenet.com/jellastone/

MOVING INTO A NEW HOUSE?

Make it more livable from the start.

FENG SHUI CONSULTATIONS

Also interior or exterior design advice, clearings, blessings, energy, healing, China-trained. Experienced. Inexpensive. Call Donna at 785-9332.

For Sale

For Sale: 1995 Mitsubishi 4-door pickup truck, diesel, 4-wheel drive, asking fl.6,000. e-mail... ellen@flamingotv.net or call 717-5567 late evenings.

For sale: Sky kennel for large dog, KLM-approved, size F, NAf 300, tel. 786-5582.

Refills! Do you have an empty 1.25 oz container of SeaGold, SeaDrops or a 2-oz. container of PSI 500 defog? Bring it

Picture Yourself In The Reporter

New York City, N.Y., USA

Jake Richter sent us this photo from New York City, taken at the Jing Fong Restaurant, where all enjoyed a great Dim Sum brunch. Appropriately, they picked *The Reporter* cover featuring Bonaire's Gold Medal winning student chefs to be photographed with them.



From left to right: Linda Richter, Mary Wills (a Bonaire regular), Jake, Eva, Seb Schulherr (Bonaire regular and a BonaireTalk Moderator), Ann Logan and Denise.

WIN GREAT PRIZES! Take a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with you on your next trip or when you return to your home. Then take a photo of yourself with the newspaper in hand. BEST PHOTOS OF THE YEAR WILL WIN PRIZES. Mail photos to Bonaire Reporter, Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: picture@bonairereporter.com. (All 2006 photos are eligible.)



Be an Angel - Pass on The Reporter to a Friend

in and the Carib Inn will fill for half the price of a new bottle!! You must have an original bottle though.

For Sale Daewoo Matiz 2002 +/- 30.000 km Airco, Radio, very good condition. First Owner, Call 717-5632

For Sale: Ultra Classic Yoga Mats. Color: Black; Price: NAf60. Call 786-6416

LADA NIVA (jeep) for sale 1991-4X4 drive 1.6 Cyl. 95.000km NAf5.400 717-2844 or 786-2844

Boats for Sale



Hartley Rorc 39 Sailing Yacht for sale. Ferro-cement ocean cruiser in good shape with lots of equipment; new sails-2005, GPS, solar panel etc. Presently cruising the Netherlands Antilles. Asking price: \$35,000 US.

Please email : Hilde for more info e-mail: hmkvalhe@yahoo.com

FOR QUICK SALE: NAf 680 per item, or best offer.

12-ft. collapsible 3-seat 4-person dinghy, with polypropylene coral-proof hull, stows in 5-inches, great for fishing, towing, motoring, even sailing.

10-ft. Walker Bay sailing dinghy, complete & nearly new.

Trailer with hitch for transporting boats 14-ft. or less. Email Mac at macamal@mac.com, or phone 786-1119.

Why expensively import a sail boat when you can own a fast Regatta winner built right here? Classic 21' Bonaire Sail Fishing boat recently refurbished is for sale for NAf14,000 (\$8,000) Call George 786-6125/717-8988.



Wanted

The Bonaire Reporter is looking for a Partner or Managing Editor

Join us to "Publish in Paradise." Working Partner or Managing Editor with journalism, writing/editing skills, business sense and energy desired.

Most important: Must Love Bonaire! Call *The Reporter* at 717-8988, 786-6518. Email qualifications to: search@bonairereporter.com



Wanted to buy: 4x4 vehicle in good condition. Jeep, SUV or pickup. Call *The Reporter* at 717-8988.

Pet of the Week

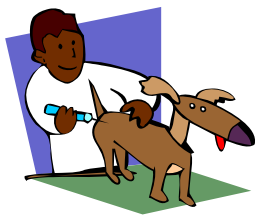
As part of an SGB school project Lisa Schut (at right) volunteered at the Bonaire Animal Shelter for six weeks, but even after her term expired she has stayed on, volunteering every Saturday to work and play with the dogs and cats. "She's a big help to us," says Shelter Manager Jurrie Mellema. "It's great to have her!"

In Lisa's arms is "Ranger," one of the most popular young puppies at the Shelter right now. Ranger is about three months old and is a darling. She was found in Nikiboko by an American couple who fell in love with her but had to return to the US. They've been in email contact, asking about this great pup and hoping she gets adopted by a good family. Ranger is

very social, feisty, with lots of energy. She has the softest fur that you just want to stroke. She's healthy, has had her shots, been wormed and is ready to go!



Lisa with "Ranger"



Attention Puppy Owners: It's Parvo time again, the period after the rain when the dry season sets in. Parvo is a powerful and contagious disease that strikes puppies and often results in death within a few days. Make sure your puppies are vaccinated by the time they're six weeks old, then at three week intervals after that. Check with your veterinarian for more information.
L.D.



World Tai Chi Qigong Day is celebrated on the last Saturday of April every year, this year on April 29th.

Tai Chi and Qigong exercises are practiced around the world, and everybody is probably familiar with media scenes of hundreds of people practicing together in Chinese parks and open spaces.

Up to now, there is no dedicated Tai Chi or Qigong facility on Bonaire. However, following the informal World Tai Chi Day presentation at City Café last year, there are now over 30 students on Bonaire who are privately studying and practicing this ancient health, exercise and healing art.

Full details of the benefits of Tai Chi and Qigong exercise can be found on the Web Site www.worldtaichiday.org with English, Spanish, German and Italian translations.

Anybody wishing to learn more about or talk about Tai Chi can contact ron@diamond-waters.com Ron Sewell

talk about Tai Chi can contact

ron@diamond-waters.com

talk about Tai Chi can contact

talk about Tai Chi can contact

ART FOR FUN

Drawing WWW Moving Water (Wavy, Wonderful, Wet)

Water moves! Water watching is enjoyed by many people who live close to the ocean. Anyone in Bonaire can agree that it is wonderful to be able to explore and watch water all around this island. Water moves in many different directions. Wind, current and weather are some of the determining factors that change the shape of the water.

A good drawing will give your viewer the impression that the water is moving. Movement is the key to a good *wavy, wonderful, wet, and moving* water drawing. So let's get moving on the techniques below!

Fig.1



Fig. 1 People often draw these waves to represent water. This basic design is perfect for decorating or as a graphic art image. We can use this simple design to create impressionist waves as well.

Fig.2



Fig. 2 I've taken the waves apart and staggered them in broken rows. I have also created a bit of wind direction by drawing the arc on the left of the peak shorter than the arc on the right.

Fig.3



Fig. 3 Now fill in a little shadow by using the side of the pencil. Lay the pencil down on the paper until the full edge of your pencil tip touches the paper. Create a shadow under the peak. Try to put more pressure on your pencil at the peak of the wave and less pressure as you feather out of the wave.

As the wind speed picks this time of year it is possible to see this type of wave pattern between Bonaire and Klein Bonaire. The pattern represents steady wind and consistent water movement. To learn more about water movement and create better drawings, study the water with the idea of drawing it! Enjoy the view and good luck with your drawings!

Janice Huckaby JanArt Gallery

This article is part of a series by Janice Huckaby of JanArt. Call 599 717-5246 or 791-5246 for information on art lessons or to view her artworks



WHAT'S HAPPENING

MOVIELAND

WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Late Show

Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)

Freedomland

(Samuel L. Jackson)

Early Show (Usually 7 pm)

Final Destination

Kaya Prinses Marie
Behind Exito Bakery
Tel. 717-2400

Tickets - NAf14 (incl. Tax)

NEW FILMS BEGIN FRIDAY
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
THURS THRU SUN
2 MOVIES 7 & 9PM
MON THRU WED. 1 MOVIE 8PM

SATURDAY 4 PM

April: Curious George

THIS EASTER WEEK

April 13 - 17 - 4th Annual MCB Tennis Cup at Harbour Village Tennis Center 565-5225, 717-6907.

Friday, April 14—Good Friday—Banks and many stores closed

Friday, April 14—Good Friday service at 7 pm at the International Bible Church with a showing of the crucifixion musical drama from the Holy Land Experience in Orlando, Florida.

Sunday, April 16—Easter Sunday Sunrise on Seru LARGU Would you like a unique Easter sunrise experience? You are welcome to journey to the tomb with the Marys as they reflect on Jesus' life. Experience the surprise as the guards realize that their life is in jeopardy. The International Bible Church of Bonaire will be holding their annual sunrise service, 6 am, Seru LARGU, next to the cross.

The normal Sunday morning service will be held at the church at 9 am. The church is located in the Trans World Radio building next to Playa Trading on Kaya Amsterdam. Everyone is welcome at all of these services, which are held in English.

Sunday, April 16—Easter Sunday Brunch Buffet at Divi Flamingo, Calabas Restaurant—11am-2pm -\$23.25 (NAf41,40). Kids pay age in \$. See page 11

Sunday, April 16—Bonairean Night at Divi Flamingo—with all the local specialties and live music—Tel. 717-8285, ext. 444

Monday, April 17—Easter Monday—Official Holiday, banks & many shops closed.

Monday, April 17 - Easter Fiesta for Children sponsored by SEBIKI- Lots of activities for children with their parents: decorating bags, egg hunts games, photos, rabbits, baby items for sale, drinks and food. At Kresh Bon Kuido from 10 am to 1 pm, NAf5.

Until Sunday, April 16- Passion of Christ Exposition by Bonaire Artists Jua Guillermo and Nochi Coffie. St. Luis Beltran Church, Rincon.

Until May 14—Fer and Rob de Wit Photo Exhibition at Plaza Resort. Open 5-8 pm, Sunday, Tuesday and Friday. Information call 717-5398.

Arts and Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina



Park on Cruise Ship visiting days, starting around 10 am to early afternoon. Great gift ideas—many “made on Bonaire.” See Cruise Ship Schedule at right.

COMING

Saturday, April 22—Earth Day “What on Earth” activities, parade for children. Info 717-4593

Saturday, April 29 - Balashi Beer Bartenders' Competition - Rincon, 7 pm-midnight

Saturday, April 29 -Flea Market at Park Publico. See page 7

Sunday, April 30—

Rincon Day,
Queen's Birthday,
Queen's Birthday Race,
Windsurfing Race (Tolo),
MCB 5 km, 17 km run

May 2006

Monday, May 1 - Labor Day—Banks & many stores closed

Friday, May 12 - Big party and show for 'mom' at Don Paranda, from 8:30 pm to 2 am, entrance FL.35- Featuring Melania van der Veen, Boy Thode, Romeo Heye, Denis Cicilia, Wilbert Petronella and DJ HB Disco. To benefit the FKPD (Handicapped Foundation) Call 717-6210 for tickets.

REGULAR EVENTS

Daily (more or less)

HH 2 for 1 (on ALL beverages) from 5-7pm,

Flamingo Balashi Beach Bar

HH—5:30-6:30, Buddy Dive

HH 5 to 7 pm, Cactus Blue (except Sunday)

2 for 1 appetizer with every entrée, Cactus Blue

Divi Flamingo Casino open daily for hot slot machines, roulette and black jack, Mon. to Sat. 8 pm–4 am; Sun. 7 pm–3 am.

Daily - by appointment -Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours Bonairean kunuku. \$12 (NAf12 for residents). Tel 717-8489, 540-9800.

Saturdays

Grill Night on the Beach, Buddy Dive

Rincon Marshé—6 am - 2 pm. Enjoy a Bonairean breakfast while you shop: fresh fruits and vegetables, gifts, local sweets and snacks, arts and handicrafts, candles, incense, drinks and music. www.infobonaire.com/rincon

Mountain Bike Ride— Everyone welcome. It's free. Bring a bike and your own water. Fitness trainer Miguel Angel Brito leads the pack. Telephone him at 785-0767 for information.

Wine Tasting at AWC's warehouse, 6 to 8 pm, Kaya Industria #23. Great wines - NAf2,50 a glass.

All You Can Eat BBQ at Divi Flamingo with live music, 6 to 9 pm, NAf26,50. Call for reservations 717-8285 ext. 444 .

Sundays

Live music 6 to 9 pm while enjoying a great dinner in colorful tropical ambiance at the Chibi Chibi Restaurant & Bar. Open daily 5 to 10 pm, Divi Flamingo

Mondays

Caribbean Night, - live local music— Buddy Dive.

Soldachi Tour of Rincon, the heart of Bonaire, 9 am-noon. \$20-Call Maria 717-6435

Kriyoyo Night BBQ Buffet featuring Chef Gibi and Los Princes Mariachi, Golden Reef Inn . Band 7 pm, BBQ at 7:30 pm. Reservations \$20, walk ins \$25. Drinks available for purchase. Call 717-5759 or email info@goldenreefinn.com

Tuesdays

Live music by the Flamingo Rockers 5-7 pm

Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar

Wine & Cheese/ \$1 glass of wine, 5-7pm, Divi Flamingo Balashi Beach Bar

Buy a Bucket of Beer & get free chicken wings, 5 to 7 pm, Cactus Blue

BonaireTalker Dinner/Gathering at Gibi's, known for great local food. 6:30pm Call Gibi at 567-0655 for details, or visit www.BonaireTalk.com, and search for "Gibi."

Yoga Classes—Tel. 786-6416 (None in April)

Wednesdays

Open Mike Night with Moogie, 7 to 9 pm, Cactus Blue

Live music by Flamingo Rockers Divi Fla-

Current Cruise Ship Schedule

Date	Ship	PAX	Arrive	Depart	Pier
01 MAY MON	PRINSENDAM	793	08:00	18:00	SOUTH
02 MAY TUE	SEA PRINCESS	1950	12:00	19:00	SOUTH

mingo, Balashi Beach Bar 5-6:30 pm

Live music by Flamingo Rockers The Wind-surf Place at Sorobon 7:30- 9:30 pm

Movie Night at Buddy Dive

Yoga Classes—Tel. 786-6416 (None in April)

Thursdays

Live music by the “Flamingo Rockers” 5-7pm-Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar

Fridays

Harbour Village Tennis, Social Round Robin 7 to 10 pm. \$10 per person. Cash bar. All invited. Call Elisabeth Vos at 565-5225

Live music by the “Flamingo Rockers” Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar – 5-7 pm

Swim lessons for children by Enith Brighitha, a Dutch Olympian, at Sorobon from 1330 to 1630

Manager's Bash—free Flamingo Smash & snacks, Divi Flamingo, 5-7 pm

Manager's Rum Punch Party, Buddy Dive Resort, 5:30-6:30 pm, followed by All You Can Eat BBQ 5-7 pm Social Event at JanArt Gallery, Kaya Gloria 7. Meet artist Janice Huckaby and Larry of Larry's Wildside Diving. New original paintings of Bonaire and diver stories of the East Coast every week

Yoga Classes—Tel. 786-6416 (None in April)

FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

Saturday- Discover Our Diversity Slides pool bar Buddy Dive, 7 pm 717-5080

Sunday - Bonaire Holiday -Multi-media dual-projector production by Albert Bianculli, 8.30 pm, Capt. Don's Habitat.

Monday- Dee Scarr's Touch the Sea slide Show at Captain Don's Habitat, 8:30 pm Call 717-8290 for info.

Wednesday (2nd and 4th) Turtle Conservation (STCB) Slide Show by Bruce Brabec. Carib Inn seaside veranda, 7 pm

Wednesday -Buddy Dive Cocktail Video Show by Martin Cecilia, pool bar Buddy Dive, 7 pm 717-5080

BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

Kas Kriyo Rincon—Step into Bonaire's past in this venerable old home that has been restored and furnished so it appears the family has just stepped out. Local ladies will tell you the story. Open Monday thru Friday, 9–12, 2-4. Weekends by appointment. Call 717-2445.

Mangasina di Rei, Rincon. Enjoy the view from “The King's Storehouse.” Learn about Bonaire's culture . Visit homes from the 17th century. Daily. Call 717-4060/790-2018

Bonaire Museum on Kaya J. v.d. Ree, behind the Catholic Church in town. Open weekdays from 8 am-noon, 1:30-5 pm. Tel. 717-8868

Washington-Slagbaai National Park, Museum and Visitors' Center. Open daily 8 am-5 pm.

Closed on some holidays. 717-8444/785-0017

Sunday at Cai- Live music and dancing starts about 12 noon at Lac Cai. Dance to the music of Bonaire's popular musicians.

CLUBS and MEETINGS

AA meetings - every Wednesday; Phone 717-6105; 560-7267 or 717- 3902.

Al-Anon meetings - every Monday evening at 7 pm. Call 790-7272

Weekly BonaireTalker Gathering and Dinner at Gibi's - Tuesday - 6:30 pm - call 567-0655 for directions.

Bridge Club - Wednesdays, 7:30 pm at the Union Building on Kaya Korona, across from the RBTT Bank. All levels invited. NAf5 entry fee. Call Cathy 566-4056.

Darts Club plays every other Sunday at City Café. Registration at 4, games at 5. Tel. 717-2950, 560-7539.

JCI - First Wednesday of the Month- Junior Chamber International Bonaire (JCI Bonaire, formerly known as Bonaire Jaycees) meets at the ABVO building, Kaminda Jatobaco 36 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. Contact: Renata Domacassé 516-4252.

Kiwanis Club meets at APNA Plaza, Kaya International, every other Tuesday, 7 pm. Tel. 717-5595, Jeannette Rodriguez.

Lions Club meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome.

Rotary lunch meetings Wednesday, 12 noon-2 pm - Now meeting at 'Pirate House', above Restaurant Zeezicht. All Rotarians welcome. Tel.

717-8434

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Bonaire Arts & Crafts (Fundashon Arte Industrial Bonaireano) 717-5246 or 7117

The Bonaire Swim Club- Contact Valerie Stimpson at 785-3451; Valrie@telbonet.an

Cinnamon Art Gallery - Volunteers to help staff gallery. 717-7103.

Bonaire National Marine Park - 717-8444.

Bonaire Animal Shelter -717-4989.

Donkey Sanctuary - 560-7607.

Jong Bonaire (Youth Center)-717-4303.

Sister Maria Hoppner Home (Child Care) Tel. 717-4181 fax 717-2844.

Special Olympics— Call Roosje 786-7984

Volunteers to train children in sports. Contact Quick-Pro Track and Field - Rik 717-8051

CHURCH SERVICES

New Apostolic Church, Meets at Kaminda Santa Barbara #1, Sundays, 9:30 am. Services in Dutch. 717-7116.

International Bible Church of Bonaire – Kaya Amsterdam 3 (near the traffic circle) Sunday Services at 9 am; Sunday Prayer Meeting at 7:00 pm in English. Tel. 717-8332

Protestant Congregation of Bonaire. Wilhelminaplein. Services in Papiamentu, Dutch and English on Sundays at 10 am. Thursday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 8 pm. Rev. Jonkman. 717-2006

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Kaya Sabana #26 Sundays 8:30 - 11:30 am. Services in Papiamentu, Spanish and English.

Catholic San Bernardus in Kralendijk – Services on Sunday at 8 am and 7 pm in Papiamentu 717-8304 . Saturday at 6 pm at Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol, in English. Mass in Papiamentu on Sunday at 9 am and 6 pm. 717-4211.

Assembly of God (Asemblea di Dios), Kaya Triton (Den Cheffi). In English, Dutch & Papiamentu on Sunday at 10 am. Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm. 717-2194

Send event info to:

The Bonaire Reporter

Email reporter@bonairenews.com
Tel/Fax. 717-8988, Cel. 786-6518

DINING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
Bella Vista Restaurant Sea Side Restaurant at Buddy Dive Resort 717-5080, ext. 538	Moderate. Breakfast and Lunch Dinner during Theme nights only. Open every day	Magnificent Theme Nights: Saturday: Beach Grill; Monday: Caribbean Night; Friday: Manager's Rum Punch Party and All-You-Can-Eat B.B.Q
Bistro de Paris Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 46 (half-way between hotel row and town) 717-7070	Moderate Lunch and Dinner Closed Sunday	Real French Cooking in an informal setting Superb dishes prepared with care and love by a French chef Owner-operated Eat in or Take away
Cactus Blue Blvd. J. A. Abraham 16 (half-way between town and Divi Flamingo) 717-4564	Moderate Dinner Closed Sunday	Trend Setting Menu Bonaire's newest hot-spot to eat and drink. Margaritas a specialty Owner-operated for top service
Calabas Restaurant & Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort. Waterfront 717-8285	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Open 7 days	Get a view of the beach and turquoise sea while enjoying a breakfast buffet or à la carte lunch and dinner at the 'Chibi Chibi' restaurant & bar. Inspiring vistas and the highest standard of cuisine.
Croccantino Italian Restaurant Downtown at Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate-Expensive Dinner Closed Monday	Bonaire's Most Romantic Restaurant where dining is a delight! Tuscan Chef David prepares exquisite dishes with authentic ingredients. Be served in a garden setting under floating umbrellas or in air-conditioned comfort. Take out too.
The Great Escape EEG Blvd #97—across from Belmar 717-7488	Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Breakfast every day; Lunch, Dinner Tues-Sun.	Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof. Cuban cuisine. New kitchen. New cook Happy hours 5 to 7 every day.
The Last Bite Bakery Home Delivery or Take Out - Now in Playa—next to Xerox 717-3293	Low-Moderate Orders taken 8 am-4 pm; Deliveries 6-7:30 pm, Closed Sunday	Enjoy a delicious dessert or savory baked meal in the comfort of your home or resort. This unique bakery offers gourmet class items -always from scratch- for take out or delivery only.
The Lost Penguin Across from MCB Bank in downtown Kralendijk Call 717-8003.	Low-Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Early Dinner until 6 pm Closed Tuesdays & Wednesdays	Watch the bustle of downtown from this street side Caribbean-style bistro owned and run by a European educated Master Chef and his wife.
Pasa Bon Pizza On Kaya Gob. Debrot ½ mile north of town center. 780-1111	Low-Moderate Open from 5-11 pm Wednesday-Sunday	Bonaire's best. The Real Thing! Freshly prepared pizzas made with the finest ingredients. Salads, desserts. Eat in or take away. Nice bar too. Call ahead to eat-in or take out 790-1111

SHOPPING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue



ART

Richter Art— By Jake and Linda: Digital paintings, Giclees on canvas, limited edition and open prints.

BANKS

Maduro and Curiel's Bank provides the greatest number of services, branches and ATMs of any Bonaire bank. They also offer investments and insurance.

BEAUTY PARLOR

Hair Affair. Expert hair cutting, styling, facials, waxing and professional nail care.

BICYCLE / SCOOTER/ QUADS

De Freewieler rents scooters and quads; professionally repairs almost anything on two wheels. Sells top brand bikes. Have your keys made here.

DIVING

Carib Inn is the popular 10-room inn with top-notch dive shop and well stocked retail store. Best book trade on Bonaire. Good prices on regulator repair, dive computer H.Q.

Dive Friends Bonaire (Photo Tours Divers-Yellow Submarine) -low prices - on the seaside at Kralendijk, at Caribbean Club, Caribbean Court and the Hamlet Oasis. Join their cleanup dives and BBQ.

WannaDive - They make diving fun while maintaining the highest professional standards. In town at City Café and at Eden Beach.

FITNESS

Bonfysio offers comprehensive fitness programs to suit your needs whether they be weight loss, sports or just keeping in shape. Convenient schedule.

Fit For Life at the Plaza Resort Mall. Classes in Pilates, Aerobics, TaeBo and more. Professional trainers, fitness machines and classes for all levels.

FURNITURE, ANTIQUES

The Plantation Has lots of classy furniture and antiques at very competitive prices. Stop in to see great teak furniture and Indonesian crafts.

GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

Green Label has everything you need to start or maintain your garden. They can design, install and maintain it and offer plants, irrigation supplies and garden chemicals. Incredible selection of pots.

GIFTS, SOUVENIRS AND LIQUOR

The Bonaire Gift Shop has an wide selection of gifts, souvenirs, liquor, dive watches, digital cameras, things for the home, T-shirts all at low prices.

HOTELS

The Great Escape Under new management. Quiet and tranquil setting with pool and luxuriant garden in Belnem. Cyber Café, DVD rentals, restaurant and bar. **New! Spa!**

METALWORK AND MACHINE SHOP

b c b- Botterop Construction Bonaire N.V., offers outstanding fabrication of all metal products, including stainless. Complete machine shop too.

Nature Exploration

Outdoor Bonaire for individually guided kayaking, hiking, biking, caving, rapeling/abseilen and more reservations : 791-6272 or 717-4555 E-mail : hans@outdoorbonaire.com

PHOTO FINISHING

Paradise Photo in the Galleries Shopping Center offers fast, fine processing for prints, slides, items and services. **Full digital services.**

REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS

Harbourtown Real Estate is Bonaire's oldest real estate agent. They specialize in professional customer service, top notch properties and home owners insurance.

Re/Max Paradise Homes: Lots of Choices—International/US connections. 5% of profits donated to local community. List your house with them for sale.

Sunbelt Realty offers full real estate, rental, and insurance services. If you want a home or to invest in Bonaire, stop in and see them.

REPAIRS

Bon Handyman is here if you need something fixed or built. Ultra reliable, honest and experienced. Electrical, plumbing, woodworking, etc. 717-2345

RESORTS & ACTIVITIES

Buddy Dive Resort offers diving, Adventure Fun tours including kayaking, mountain biking, cave snorkeling and exploration.

RETAIL

Benetton, world famous designer clothes available now in Bonaire at prices less than those in US. For men, women and children.

SECURITY

Special Security Services will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.

SHIPPING

Rocargo Freight Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. **FedEx agent.**

SILKSCREEN, EMBROIDERY

CesMar—Local company offers top quality, fast service for monogramming, silk screening, embroidery.

SUPERMARKETS

Visit **Warehouse Bonaire** to shop in a large, spotless supermarket. You'll find American and European brand products. THE market for provisioning.

WATER TAXI

Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the *Kantika di Amor* or *Skiffy*. Hotel pickup.

WINDSURFING

The Bonaire Windsurfing Place can fulfill all your windsurfing dreams and more. They offer expert instruction, superb equipment on a fine beach. Lunch and drinks too. BBQ and windsurf videos Wednesday nights.

WINES

Antillean Wine Company. You've tried the rest; now try the best: best prices, highest quality wines from around the world, kept in a cooled warehouse. Free delivery.

YOGA

Yoga For You. Join certified instructors Desirée and Don for a workout that will refresh mind and body. Private lessons too.

ATTENTION BUSINESSMEN/WOMEN:
Put your ad in *The Bonaire Reporter*.
Phone/Fax 717-8988, Cel 786-6518

On the Island Since...

1981

Benito Dirksz

I am a self-made man and I love to work. The great thing about my business is when people need your help you're there as a professional to offer them everything they need. Always you have to be prepared and to be able to make decisions immediately. To take action you need factual knowledge and know how – when it comes to the point there's no time to look it up in a book!

I was born on Aruba March 21st, 1960. My mother is from Aruba and my father was from St. Martin. I went to Martin Luther King College and then to Polytechnic School in Aruba. When I finished I left for St. Martin where I worked as a salesman at Promart, one of the biggest home centers in Phillipsburg. Three years later I was called up for military service, and from 60 candidates I was chosen with three others. It was great; I'd always had a passion for uniformed service.

My detachment was on Curaçao and Aruba, and after I was demobilized I applied for a job with the police on Curaçao. I took all the tests, but because I had to wait such a long time before I could start training I decided to join a security service in the meantime. I started as a supervisor, and then very soon I was the assistant manager. I was sent to Bonaire where the company had a branch." *He laughs:* "Bonaire was too quiet! I stayed at Hotel Rochaline and the only thing I did was check on the E Wowo discotheque and Hugo Gerharts' company, Bonaire Trading. There was hardly any crime on the island!

While I was here I got the message from the police training in Curaçao that I could start. I thought it over and decided to stay as I loved my job. Eight months later I'd fallen in love with Bonaire, so when the management of the security company called me back to Curaçao I only went back to thank them. I went to Aruba for a brief period, working in the maintenance of a hotel until my brother Franklin, who was living on Bonaire and working in security, called me to come immediately. He'd gotten an offer from the salt company to work for them as the company's workers were on strike and they needed security because they were afraid of sabotage. So I came back to Bonaire, and after working for the salt company I started my own company, Special Security Services, on August 16th 1983.

In the beginning the company was me and my brother, just the two of us. There wasn't so much work so Franklin became a bartender at Capt. Don's Habitat and I stayed on. In fact," *he grins,* "I should have given the whole thing up because there was no crime whatsoever, but I was

holding on and could just make it.

I started at Cultimara, looking out for shoplifters, and at WEB, then at the hospital where I checked on people coming in and out, etc. That's how it grew. In the meantime I did professional training in Florida and in Portland, Oregon, and became a specialist completely in security.

So, from a company that started originally with two people we grew to a company that employs 75 people now. We do physical security, money transport and electronic security, and we've set up a 24-hour response system. Our first customers were Littman Jewelers and WEB. I worked hard those 22 years." *Benito Dirksz is a professional, addicted to the job, but he's also a family man and he's handsome with a great deal of boyish charm.*

"Bonaire was too quiet! I stayed at Hotel Rochaline and the only thing I did was check on the E Wowo discotheque and Hugo Gerharts' company, Bonaire Trading. There was hardly any crime on the island!"

"The present situation on the island is dreadful," he continues, "but undeniably it's part of a worldwide problem, because with economic growth crime grows just as fast. Nevertheless, if we would have more social concern here it could help a lot. And also the parents should supervise their children more thoroughly. When crime began on the island everyone thought it was by people from other islands. However, it soon turned out that it was local youth.

When I was the president of AKIB (Bonaire's trade and industry association) in 1999-2000 the police had a lot of problems because they didn't have enough cars or a suitable building to operate from - some of the reasons why they couldn't do their work properly. AKIB started a campaign to help the police and we've donated computers while BONA-HATA donated motorbikes to prevent burglaries on tourist cars parked at the

dive sites. We also put a lot of pressure on the Central Government in Curaçao, especially on the Minister of Justice, to restore the needs of the police force on Bonaire. The double murder of the Pleumeekeers couple was the last drop. We organized a big demonstration and over 3,000 people joined the march. These days the police

are much better organized, but still crime is growing, and a lot of it is drug-related. It's very easy to get drugs and arms on the island. We've been through a period where robberies were almost daily business. After the Warehouse robbery and a confrontation with firearms in which one of the suspects was shot by one of my employees things have cooled off a little. Luckily it has become less violent, but still... there's enough work for us...

Although I am a workaholic, the most important thing in life for me is family. In total I have nine children, all on Bonaire. The first one was born in 1985 and is now 20 years old and working in the business with me. The youngest will be one year old on May 6th.

On April 19th I will have been happily married for nine years to Marisol Winklaar. My mother is still alive and lives on Bonaire, but my father passed away in 2002 on St. Martin. Clearly my work is my hobby, but I am also chairman of the disciplinary committee of the FKPD (the handicapped center) - not only because we have a daughter there - but because I think that one should always give something back to his community. That's especially true in this case where it concerns people who cannot stand up for their rights. I am also a member of the Chamber of Commerce and the representative for Bonaire for the Social Economic Board of the Chamber of Commerce. I'm a member of the board of the foundation, Economic Platform Bonaire. Also I am a member of the American Society for Industrial Security, the ASIS. Every month they send us an update about the new technology, and once a year we attend seminars and workshops in the States. I have been involved in so many organizations that at a certain point I had to let go of quite a



Benito Dirksz

few, but still... sometimes it seems like the day is gone and I did so much, but nothing I had planned for. I have always been eager to learn and spontaneous when it comes to helping other people and when I do it I do it without any conditions.

I love people who are honest in their relationships with other people. When I am free? Jeez... I am hardly ever free... Let me think... I love to swim, to listen to music and I love to dance at E Terras, a little restaurant I own in Kaya Nikiboko Zuid. After the devastating fire there last November we're almost ready to reopen. And together with some other partners we just opened a new fitness center, Top Health Bonaire, in the new building on Kaya Nikiboko Noord. We will also be giving Latin-American dance classes there, and I am really planning on using the facilities quite frequently myself!

I think I will always stay here and I will never retire unless God says: 'It has been enough!'

I came here in 1981 and now I have spent 25 years on the island - and that's the biggest part of my life! Bonaire is in my heart. Maybe I could have done good business on another island as well, but I decided to stay on Bonaire and I feel I made the right choice - there are no regrets, no doubts. Bonaire is my first home. I was born Aruban but now I am Bonairean."

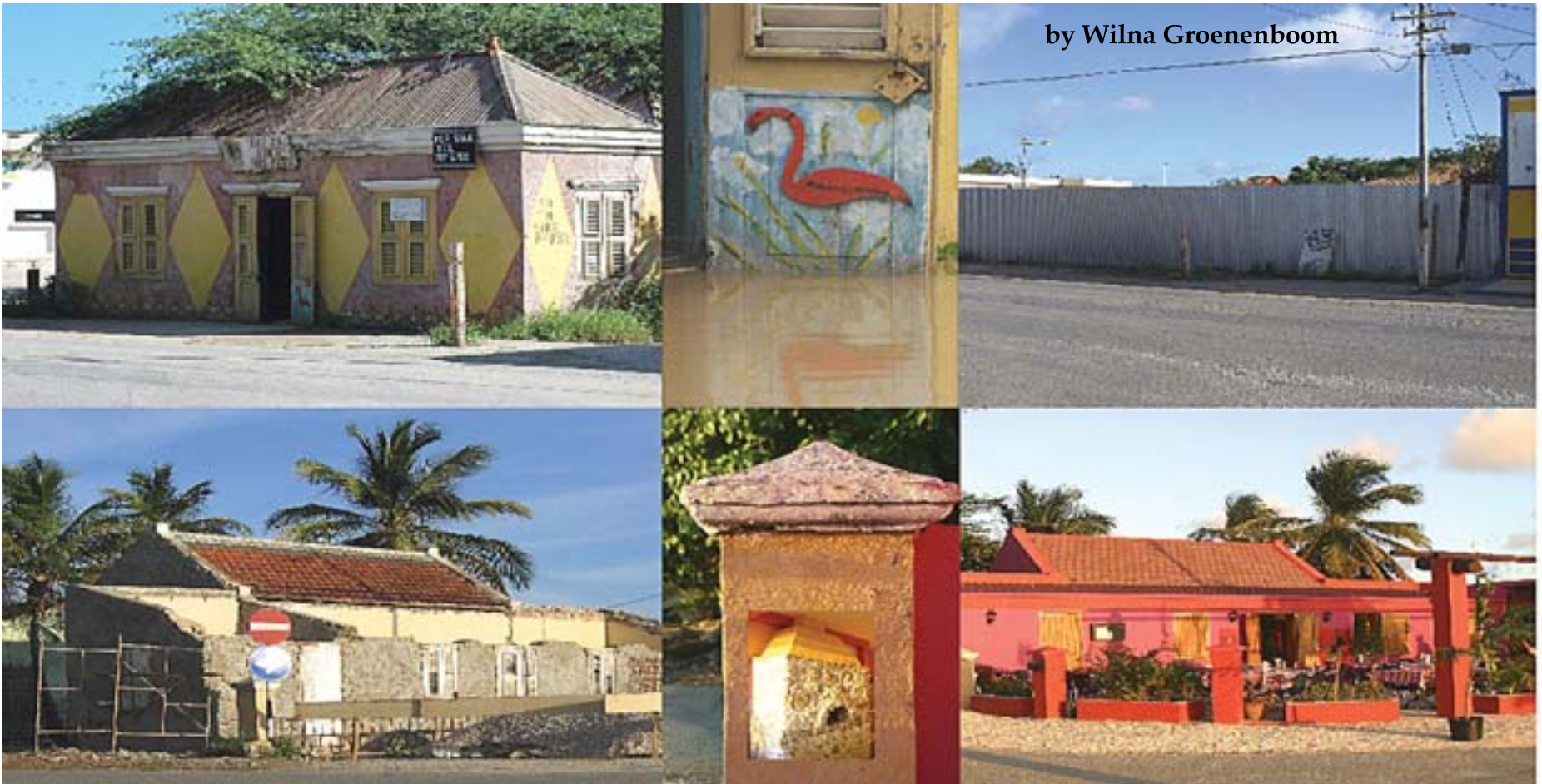
Story and photo by Greta Kooistra



Antique Living Houses of Bonaire

Then and Now

by Wilna Groenenboom



Preserving Bonaire's Architectural Heritage

Four months ago I started this bi-monthly feature column with this statement: "I noticed that on Bonaire there are some simple old buildings—the unsung heroes of the unique architecture of Bonaire—with very attractive details. These antique buildings

are not ruins; they are still being lived in or used. At the escalating rate that so many of our old buildings and houses on Bonaire are being torn down we felt some sort of photographic record should be made of these historical places and especially their interesting details before it's too late." (Bonaire Reporter 27 October 2005)

The Photoshop" on Kaya L.D. Gerharts was such an example. This was a beautiful, typical old Bonairean house. It was an eye catcher - lovingly painted - in the heart, the center of Kralendijk. With the flamingo on the doors it was also for the tourists a fun, beautiful, historical piece of architecture. What is coming to replace it?

The family Boekhoudt and Donna and Georgio understood each other in their preservation of what already existed: a beautiful traditional old Bonairean house.

Donna and Georgio spent a lot of time and energy to not only preserve its char-

acter but to make it functional. I hope that more people dare to make this step.

The gate pillar on the left side of the building (lower middle photo) is an old one. Donna and Georgio appreciate something "simple" and see the architectural value of this. Because this is the only old pillar around the property, they decided to leave it in its original white and yellow colors.

In this gate pillar you see a photo of the chimney, the original oven of the house, preserved for the future. It's now, in a figurative sense, really in the core of the building.

I hope that more people in the Cha Cha Cha Beach area try to save the venerable old houses that are full of character. Now there are quite a few houses for sale, standing empty. Some are nearly falling down; gardens are withered; and there is no life there. In my opinion we've already lost too many of this kind of house in that area.

Why not make this place active and lively? Make it a place where both locals and tourists would like to spend their time. Let what is already existing stay there and preserve it. And don't build high, characterless concrete buildings which we see everywhere else in the world.

photos and story by W.G.



Wilna Groenenboom is an artist and photographer who teaches art at the SGB high school



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it, just look up

Venus Visits a Planet Named George, Three Nights in a Row

Venus will pay a super close visit to a planet named **George** on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 17th, 18th and 19th.

On Monday, April 17th, an hour before sunrise, face east where right in front of you you'll see a dazzling bright object which is our old friend, planet #2 from the Sun, 8,000-mile-wide **Venus**, which is often called the twin sister of **Earth** because it's almost the same size. It's the brightest planet of them all, but if you look down and to its left you'll see a faint tiny blue-green dot of light which is the dimmest naked eye planet of all, the planet formerly known, no kidding, as **George**. But if you can't find **George** with the naked eye don't feel too badly because I never can either. I always use a small pair of binoculars. Then it's absolutely easy to find.

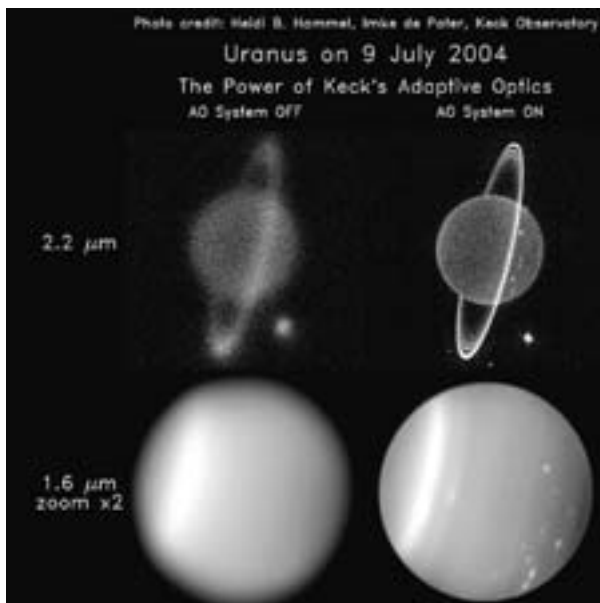
Now **George** is much bigger than **Venus**. It's 32,000 miles wide. It's so huge that we could line up four **Venus**s, side by side, across its middle. The only reason it appears so much dimmer than **Venus** is because it is so incredibly much farther away. **Venus**' average distance from the Sun is only 67 million miles while **George** is a whopping 1.8 billion miles away!

And you may remember the old rule that states that "the closer a planet is to the Sun the faster it travels, and the farther a planet is from the Sun the slower it travels." **Venus** is so close that it makes one trip around the Sun once every 225 Earth days, whereas it takes **George** 84 Earth years to make one trip around the Sun! And, unlike the other planets, it circles the Sun tilted on its side. So for 42 years its north pole is pointed toward the Sun and the other 42 years its south pole is pointed toward the Sun. Weird to say the least, just like its former name.

So how did this lovely planet get the name **George**? Well, when it was discovered in 1781 by English astronomer Sir William Herschel he named it **George's star** after King **George the Third** of England. Other astronomers, not in favor of this royal boot licking, immediately renamed it **Herschel**. But later, in keeping with the mythological names of the other planets, it was finally decided that it should be renamed for the Greek god of the sky, **Uranus**, a name which has been abused and amused many ever since.

So get out those binoculars next week! Through them **Venus** will look like a brilliant diamond. And only one degree away, which is the width of two full **Moons** placed side by side, you'll see the bluish-green dot, which is **Uranus**. But the best is yet to come because on the next day, Tuesday, the 18th, **Venus** and **Uranus** will be only 3/10 of one degree apart, about the same width as a quarter Moon. Then on the next day, Wednesday, they'll once again be only one degree apart. Three days of **Venus** and **George** and at their absolute closest! Dust off those binoculars and keep looking up!

Jack Horkheimer



The Power of Hawaii's Keck Observatory Adaptive Optics system is demonstrated in two sets of exposures that compare Keck AO system off (L.) to Keck AO system (R.).

UPPER: Uranus, its rings and moon Miranda at near infrared wavelengths of 2.2 microns.

LOWER: Uranus and its atmospheric details as seen in near infrared wavelengths of 1.6 microns.



THE STARS HAVE IT

For the week: April 9 to 15, 2006

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Don't make a move; your confusion has caused this dilemma and you are best to back away and reassess the situation. Problems with your partner are apparent. You will earn recognition for the work you are doing. Adventure will result in added knowledge. Your lucky day this week is Saturday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Family outings that aren't expensive will be enjoyable and help strengthen ties. Someone you work with may be emotional. Don't count your chickens before they hatch. You can continue to make gains if you call a few people who can help you close an important deal. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) You can continue to make gains if you call a few people who can help you close an important deal. You may find out that someone has not been completely honest with you. Look into ways to better yourself through improving your dietary habits and daily routines. Get friends to help you with the preparations. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You could be quite erratic regarding your personal relationship. You could be drawn to events that concern children. Think before you act if you wish to avoid friction. You can write beautiful love letters this week. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Make sure that you make reservations early. Knowledge can be acquired if you listen. You will learn valuable skills if you sign up for seminars this week. Watch your weight gain due to water retention. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Get involved in the activities of children. You need a change and you need to earn more cash. Travel and learning should be on your agenda this week. Don't be too quick to react. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Your dedication and fortitude when dealing with humanitarian groups will enhance your reputation. Family get-togethers will be interesting. Your high enthusiasm will be sure to inspire anybody around you. You can gain approval, get kudos, and ask for help if you put a little heart into your speech or request. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Follow through on some of the good ideas that come up, and you could have a real winner of a deal. Travel will be favorable. Resist overspending on luxury items. Romance will develop if you get involved in social events that deal with children. Don't overspend to impress someone who interests you. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Things at home may be somewhat rocky. You will meet new romantic partners through the company you keep. Your mate will enjoy helping out. You can meet potential new mates if you socialize with friends. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Channel your energy into passionate interludes with your lover. Concentrate on home improvement. Small details will make a difference. Be sure to question any detail that you feel could leave you in a precarious position at a later date. Try to curb your tongue and let others at least get a word in. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Someone you work with could try to undermine you. Get help setting up a reasonable budget. Look into ways of making extra cash. Changes could be overwhelming. You should want to feel good about yourself and your goals. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Outings with relatives or good friends will provide you with stimulating conversation. You could do extremely well in competitive sports events. Get out and get active. Don't be angry, but be on your guard. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.